

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7100**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 591**

**NOTE PREPARED: Jan 9, 2013**  
**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Registration of Discharged Offenders.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Broden  
**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local.

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill requires that a criminal offender must be offered an opportunity to register to vote upon the offender's discharge from the Department of Correction (DOC) if the criminal offender designates a place of residence within Indiana upon discharge and asks to register to vote in Indiana. It authorizes and requires the DOC to register discharged offenders who meet these conditions, and it establishes procedures for the DOC to register discharged offenders to vote.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2013.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill will have minimal increased costs for the release of offenders when an offender chooses to register to vote upon release. Any increase in cost will come from additional administrative procedures required in the release of the offender, which is expected to be minimal since there are administrative procedures and staff designated to facilitate release of prisoners.

In addition, the Department of Correction will forward applications and declinations to the county voter registration office where the offender will reside upon release within five days of the application being received by the DOC. Depending on the method used to convey the application, this requirement could increase costs for the DOC. Under the bill, the application may be hand-delivered, sent certified mail, return receipt requested, or electronically transferred with approval of the Election Commission.

**Background:** In 2011, there were 19,169 offenders released from 26 different DOC facilities. (The count may include multiple releases of the same individual.)

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The county voter registration office provides the DOC with information on special elections. This is expected to have very minimal fiscal impact.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** DOC.

**Local Agencies Affected:** County voter registration office.

**Information Sources:**

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